GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Forest Department - Diversion of 6.1 Ha. of forest land in Compartment Nos. 217 & 218 of Veerasettipalle "B" Reserve Forest, Chittoor (West) Division, for renewal of mining lease for extraction of Black Granite, in favour of M/s. Tirumala Granites, Chittoor - Permission accorded - Orders - Issued.

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ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section. II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 62 **Dated: 06 -07-2015.**

Read the following:-

1. From PCCF, A.P, Hyderabad, Lr.Rc.No. 18540/2011/F2, Dated.19-4-2012
2. State Govt. Lr.No.2915/For.I (1)/2012, Dated. 3-5-2012.
3. From GoI, MoEF& C.C, Lr.No.4-APC882/2012-BAN/2748, Dt:28-1-2013.
4. State Govt. letter No.2915/Section.II/2012, Dated. 21-10-2014.
5. From GoI, MoEF& C.C, Lr.No. 4-APC882/2012-BAN/361, Dt:18-6-2015.

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ORDER:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad in his letter 1st read above, has submitted a proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 6.1 Ha. of forest land in Compartment Nos. 217 & 218 of Veerasettipalle "B" Reserve Forest, Chittoor (West) Division for renewal of mining lease for extraction of Black Granite, in favour of M/s. Tirumala Granites, Chittoor, and requested to forward the same to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, for according necessary approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. The said proposal was sent to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, for their approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vide State Government letter 2nd read above.

3. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, vide their letter 3rd read above, have accorded their approval in-principle (Stage.I) under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the proposal, for a period of 10 years, with effect from 4-10-2012 subject to compliance of certain conditions as stipulated therein.

4. The State Government vide letter 4th read above, have furnished compliance report on the conditions stipulated by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, while according in-principle (Stage.I) approval. The State Government vide further letters dated.1-6-2015 & 15-6-2015 have furnished certain additional information as desired by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change.

5. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, in their letter 5th read above, have accorded their approval (Stage.II) under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 6.1 Ha. of forest land in Compartment Nos. 217 & 218 of Veerasettipalle "B" Reserve Forest, Chittoor (West) Division for renewal of mining lease for extraction of Black Granite, in favour of M/s. Tirumala Granites, Chittoor, subject to certain conditions as stipulated therein.

(Contd-2)

6. Government after careful examination of the proposal, hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, for diversion of 6.1 Ha. of forest land in Compartment Nos. 217 & 218 of Veerasettipalle "B" Reserve Forest, Chittoor (West) Division for renewal of mining lease for extraction of Black Granite, in favour of M/s. Tirumala Granites, Chittoor, for a period of 10 years, with effect from 4-10-2012 subject to the following conditions:-.

(i) The Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.

(ii) Duly numbered cement concrete boundary pillars shall be maintained at an interval of 20 mts.at the cost of User Agency.

(iii) Area up to 7.5 meters all along the boundary inside the area being diverted shall be maintained as safety zone, as per the guidelines dated 12-7-2012 of MoEF & CC. Safety Zone area shall be fenced at the cost of the user agency. User Agency shall deposit funds to the Forest Department for the protection and regeneration of safety zone area.

(iv) The mining lease shall be obtained for the whole of 7.56 ha and mining shall be done as per the mining plan approved by the competent authority and strict compliance of all relevant acts and rules. No mining shall be done in the safety zone area.

(v) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 7.56 ha including 1.46 ha of safety zone area.

(vi) Protection and development of adjoining forest area of about 100 ha. shall be taken up by the Forest Department as per the plan approved by the Divisional Forest Officer at the cost of User Agency.

(vii) The User Agency shall pay NPV, if the Ministry decides NPV is required to be charged for renewal cases also.

(viii) Additional amount of Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land, if any becoming due after revision of the same by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Govt. from the User Agency.

(ix) User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986.

(x) The G.T. station mark shall be protected from damage and it shall not be disturbed.

(xi) Suitable measures shall be taken up to prevent soil erosion caused due to formation of road, mining and other activities at the cost of User Agency.

(xii) The forest area shall be used for the purpose of mining, storage of materials and OB dumps only. No Permanent buildings or labour sheds should be constructed in the leased area.

(xiii) Reclamation work concurrent to mining shall be taken up by the User Agency.

(Contd-3)

(xiv) The consent of Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) shall be obtained under Air and Water Act before commencement of mining operation and it shall be renewed annually.

(xv) A comprehensive monitoring shall be done at the end of five years to study the impact of mining on the surrounding flora and fauna and its watershed. If it is found that the User Agency has violated or is not complying with the stipulated conditions, then the approval given under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 shall be revoked.

(xvi) Any other condition that the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Chennai may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the user agency.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad is directed to take further necessary action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

ASHWINI KUMAR PARIDA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

Copy to:
The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central)
Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Regional Office, 1st and 2nd Floors, Handloom Export Promotion Council Building
34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600034

M/s. Tirumala Granites, Industrial Estate, Shed No.3, Chittoor.

SF/SC

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER.